

Engine Repair and Maintenance

This activity applies to you if you conduct engine repair and maintenance on vehicles and other equipment. It also applies to mobile vehicle maintenance operations, such as at construction sites. This common activity can lead to immediate stormwater contamination if repairs and maintenance are it is not done in a controlled manner. This activity can contaminate stormwater runoff with toxic hydrocarbons, other toxic organic compounds, oils and greases, abnormal pH, and heavy metals. Related vehicle maintenance activities are covered under the following activity headings in this manual: “Painting, Finishing, and Coating of Vehicles, Products, and Equipment,” “Vehicle Washing and Steam Cleaning,” “Fueling Operations,” and “Vehicle and Equipment Parking and Storage.”

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices, are required if you are engaged in engine and vehicle repair and maintenance:

1

If temporary work is being conducted outside:

Use a tarp, ground cloth, or drip pans beneath the vehicle or equipment to capture all spills and drips. The collected drips and spills must be disposed of, reused, or recycled properly.



See BMP Info Sheet 2 in Chapter 4 for information on disposal options.

2

If the work is done **OUTDOORS** on a regular basis at a stationary business location: move the activity indoors.

3

Routine Maintenance:

- Employees must be educated on proper handling and disposal of engine fluids.

- Store and maintain appropriate spill cleanup materials in a location known to all. Ensure that employees are familiar with the site's spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures. You can use reusable cloth rags, instead of disposable wipes, to clean up small drips and spills. A permitted industrial laundry can wash the reusable cloth rags. Do not clean them at home or at a coin-operated laundry business.
- Sweep the maintenance area weekly if it is paved, to collect loose particles. Wipe up spills with rags and other absorbent material immediately. Do not hose down the area to a storm drain.

Additional BMPs

The following BMPs are not required but they can provide improved pollution control: **If the above minimum requirements do not provide adequate source control the following BMPs may be required.**



Absorbent material such as pillows or booms can be used around storm drains or in catch basins to absorb oil and other substances. Used absorbent materials containing oil or other engine fluids must be disposed of in the appropriate manner. Oil recycling vendors or other vendors that pick up used vehicle fluids can assist in the appropriate disposal of these materials.



A catch basin insert, configured for oil removal, may remove some of the pollutants in runoff from this activity. Catch basin inserts require frequent maintenance to be effective, so this should be considered when evaluating your options.



See BMP Info Sheet 9 in Chapter 4 for more information.

For more information or assistance in implementing these best management practices, contact the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Stormwater Services Section at 206-296-1900.

Reader Note: The above requirements are the minimum required BMPs. If these BMPs fail to prevent discharges to the storm drainage system you will be asked to take additional measures to correct the continued pollution discharges.